

REMARKS

Claims 1-16, 22, and 24 are pending in this application.

Applicant has amended claims 1-12, 22, and 24, and has canceled claims 17-21, 23 and 25.

Election of Claims

As noted above, in response to the restriction requirement, Applicant has elected claims 1-16, 22, and 24 (the Group I claims) for prosecution on the merits. In light of the election, Applicant has canceled non-elected claims 17-21, 23, and 25. Applicant reserves the right to pursue non-elected claims 17-21, 23, and 25 in a timely filed divisional application.

Claim Amendments

Applicant has made minor changes to claims 1-12, 22, and 24. The changes to the claims are editorial in nature and therefore do not introduce any new matter.

Conclusion

Applicant respectfully requests examination of claims 1-16, 22, and 24, as presented herein. In the event a telephone conversation would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner may reach the undersigned at (408) 749-6902. If any additional fees are due in connection with the filing of this paper, then the Commissioner is authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0805 (Order No. MIPFP043).

Respectfully submitted,
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